

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, ECOSOC

SUBJECT: 56TH ECOSOC: WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE (ITEM 3).

1. THE FOLLOWING BACKGROUND MATERIAL RE PARTICIPATION AT THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE PROVIDES SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE TO POSITION PAPER (UNEC D/219) PREPARED FOR AGENDA ITEM 3.

2. PARTICIPATION

THE UNITED STATES HAS CONSISTENTLY ADVOCATED THE "VIENNA FORMULA" AS THE BASIS FOR ISSUING INVITATIONS TO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES. THE "VIENNA FORMULA" SPECIFIES THAT INVITATIONS BE SENT TO "STATES MEMBERS OF THE UN OR MEMBERS OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES OR THE IAEA AND STATES

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PARTIES TO THE STATUTE OF THE ICJ." IN THE MOST RECENT

CASE--THE UNGA DECISION ON INVITATIONS TO THE LAW OF THE SEA (LOS) CONFERENCE--THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTED THE "VIENNA FORMULA" PLUS DRV (NORTH VIETNAM). THE FINAL LOS RESOLUTION DECIDED ON THE "VIENNA FORMULA" PLUS DRV AND GUINEA-BISSAU. THE UNITED STATES VOTED AGAINST INVITING GUINEA-BISSAU BUT IT WAS ADDED TO THE INVITATION LIST BY A LARGE MAJORITY.

SINCE THE UNGA DECISION ON THE LOS CONFERENCE INVITATIONS, GUINEA-BISSAU HAS BEEN ADMITTED TO THE FAO. THUS IT WOULD

BE COVERED UNDER THE "VIENNA FORMULA." WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT GUINEA-BISSAU DOES NOT MEET CRITERIA AS A STATE BUT ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO BLOCK ITS INVITATION.

THEREFORE, THE UNITED STATES SHOULD SUPPORT THE VIENNA FORMULA PLUS DRV AS THE BASIS FOR ISSUING INVITATIONS TO THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE. AS A TACTICAL MATTER, IT WOULD BE BETTER TO AVOID USE OF THE TERM "VIENNA FORMULA" ITSELF AND REFER TO IT AS "STATES MEMBERS" FORMULA OR SPELL OUT ITS PROVISIONS IN THEIR ENTIRETY. ("VIENNA FORMULA" WAS THE SUBJECT OF BITTER DISPUTE IN THE PAST BETWEEN EAST AND WEST PARTICULARLY IN RELATION THE GERMAN QUESTION AND THE TERM STILL HAS IDEOLOGICAL CONNOTATIONS.)

THE U.S. SHOULD STRONGLY OPPOSE ANY EFFORTS TO INVITE THE PRG (VIETCONG) OR TO OFFER CAMBODIA'S SEAT TO PRINCE SIHANOUK'S GRUNK.

IN VIEW OF THE WIDE INTEREST SHOWN IN THE WFC, PARTICIPATION BY INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND SOME NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WILL BE BOTH DESIRABLE AND NECESSARY SUBJECT TO LIMITATIONS ON SPACE ABOUT WHICH THE FAO HAS ALREADY INDICATED SOME CONCERN. AS A MINIMUM, THE SYG SHOULD EXTEND INVITATIONS ON AN OBSERVER BASIS TO ALL SPECIALIZED AGENCIES OF THE UN SYSTEM AND THE IAEA AND INTERNATIONAL BANKS. IT SHOULD ALSO INVITE ON AN OBSERVER BASIS OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS VIZ LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OECD AND NGO'S WHICH ARE DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH THE FOOD PROBLEM. THE COUNCIL SHOULD LEAVE THE ACTUAL LIST TO BE WORKED OUT BY THE UN/SYG IN CONSULTATION WITH SECGEN MAREI TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION PHYSICAL FACILITIES AND MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO COMBINE GROUPS (VIZ HUMANITARIAN VOLAGS). RUSH

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